

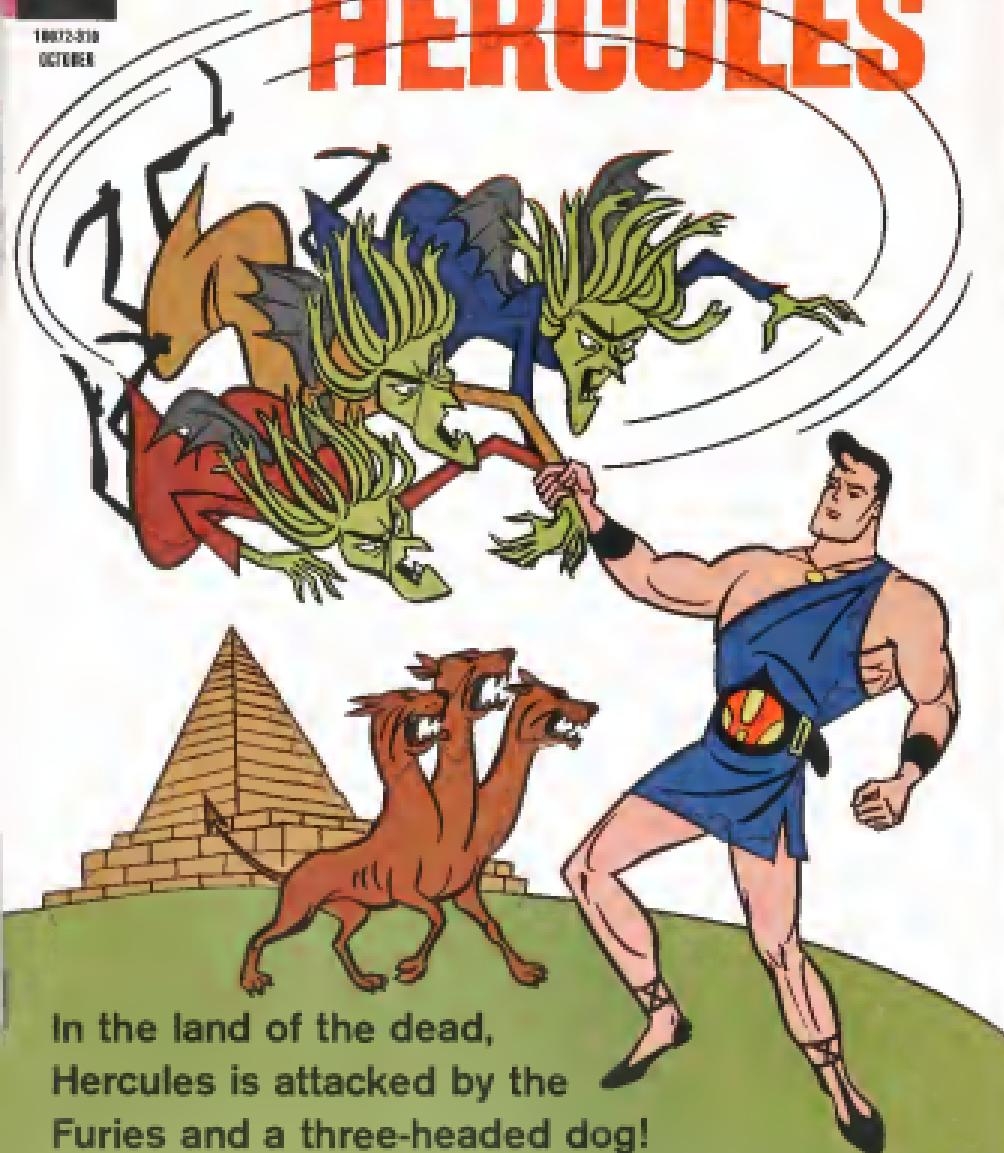


THE MIGHTY HERCULES

NOW ONLY 12c

10072-310
OCTOBER

THE MIGHTY **HERCULES**



In the land of the dead,
Hercules is attacked by the
Furies and a three-headed dog!



KEYS OF KNOWLEDGE

PHYSICAL FITNESS

Recommended by the President's
Council on Youth Fitness

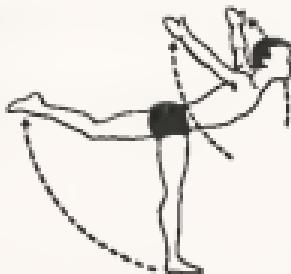
NUMBER 1

BACK STRENGTHENERS

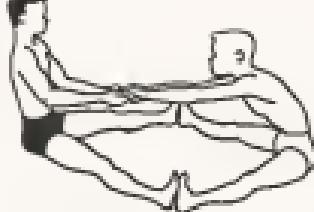
This is one of a series of information features in *David Key Comics*. Collect the whole series for useful knowledge.



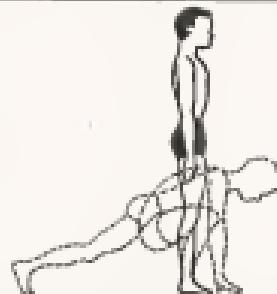
Lying on your side, raise the uppermost leg straight . . . Try to touch your foot . . . Change sides and repeat same action.



From a standing position, stretch one leg back and up, keeping the trunk level, head up . . . Hold . . . Change legs . . . Repeat.



Face your partner, seated, feet touching, fingers interlocked . . . Bend low as your partner pulls . . . Then reverse the action.



Stand, then squat touching hands to the floor . . . Thrust legs back to limit . . . Return to a squatting position . . . Stand.



Stand with arms high overhead, the palms out . . . Swing arms down and back to the limit, bending body low, knees a little.

The Mighty Hercules JOURNEY TO THE LAND OF THE DEAD

AS HELENA GRAZES A FLOCK OF SHEEP IN THE
FIELDS BY CALYDON, SUDDENLY, THE GREEN
GRASS TURNS BROWN...

WHY, THE GRASS
IS DRYING!



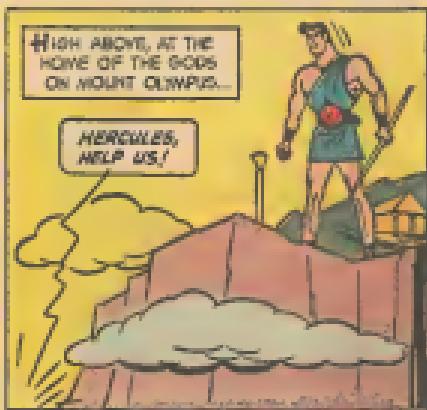
AND THE FRUIT IS DYING
RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES!



EVEN THE LEAVES ARE FALLING!
EVERYTHING THAT GROWS AND IS
GREEN SUDDENLY SEEMS TO
BE DEAD!







QUICKLY, HERCULES TAKES THE MAGIC RING
ZEUS GAVE HIM FROM HIS BELT AND SLIPS
IT ON HIS FINGER...



THEN, WITH A MIGHTY LEAP HE STARTS
DOWN FROM MOUNT OLYMPUS TO THE
TROUBLED GREEK CITY BELOW...



HELENA, WHAT
IS WRONG?

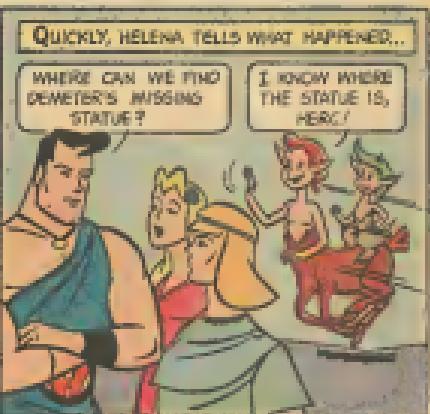
OH, HERCULES, ALL
GROWING THINGS
ARE DYING!



QUICKLY, HELENA TELLS WHAT HAPPENED...

WHERE CAN WE FIND
DEMETER'S MISSING
STATUE?

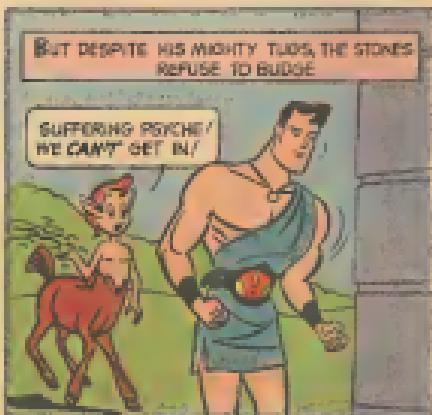
I KNOW WHERE
THE STATUE IS,
HERC!

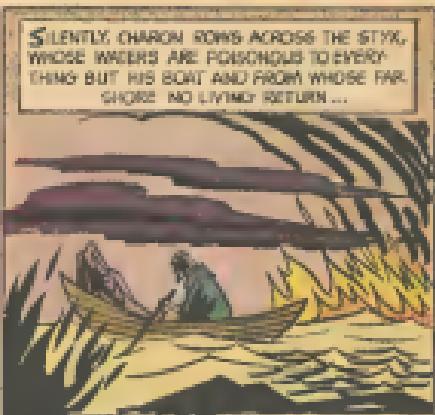


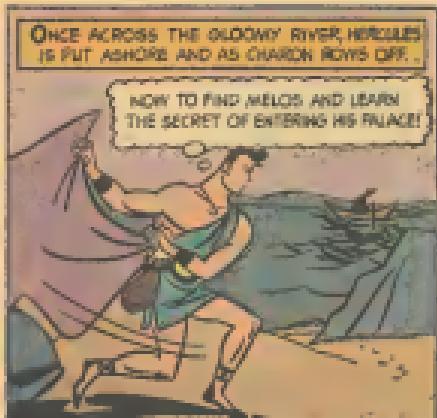
NEWTON!

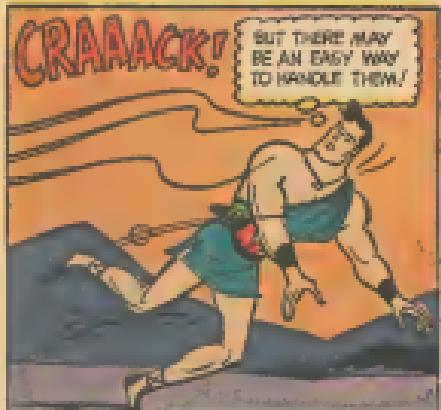
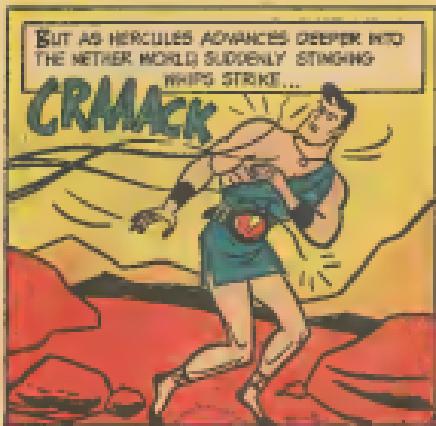
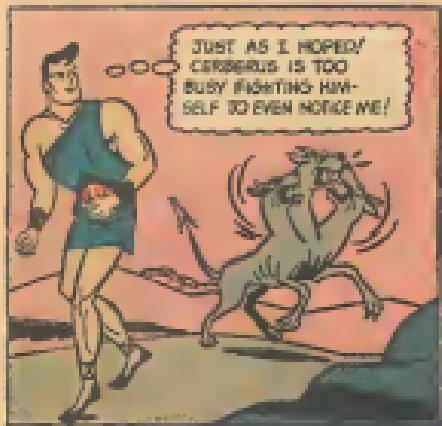
THAT'S ME! THAT'S ME!
TETT AND I HEARD
DIADELAWS SQUITTING!
HE STOLE THE STATUE
AND PUT IT WHERE EVEN
YOU CAN'T GET IT!







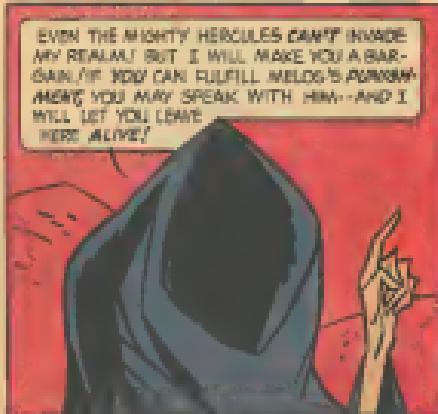


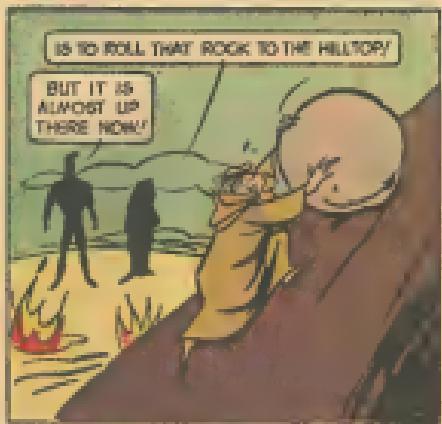


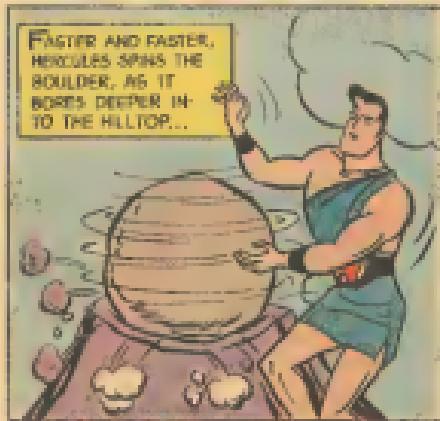


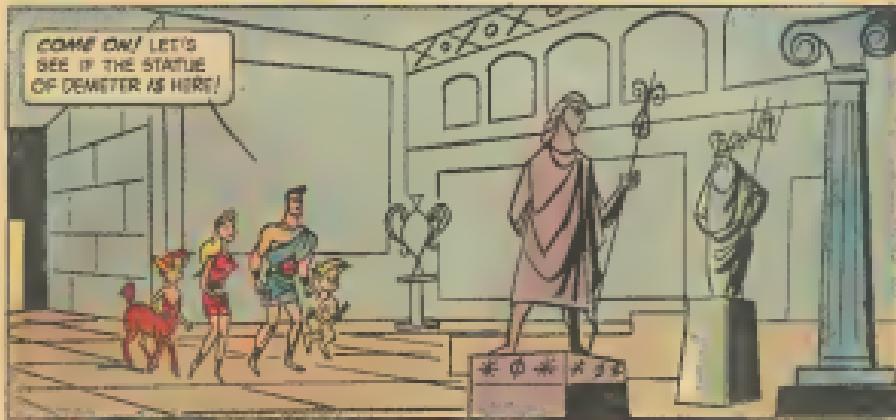
BUT ONCE AGAIN, HERCULES! WHY IS BARREMED THIS TIME BY HADES, RULER OF THE REALM OF THE DEAD?

LET ME PASS, HADES! I WISH TO SPEAK TO THE KING OF HELL!











SWIFTLY HERCULES
PIKS UP A ROCK
AND THEN, WHIRLING
FASTER AND FASTER,
GIVES THE ROCK A
MIGHTY HEAVE...



HE-HHEY!

WOOSH!



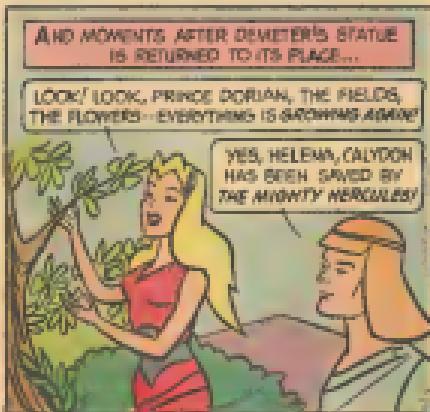
SUFFERING FOOL!
THAT'LL SURE DAMPEN
HIS SPIRITS, HERC!



AND MOMENTS AFTER DEMETER'S STATUE
IS RETURNED TO ITS PLACE...

LOOK! LOOK! PRINCE DORIAN, THE FIELDS,
THE FLOWERS—EVERYTHING IS GROWING AGAIN!

YES, HELENA, CALYDON
HAS BEEN SAVED BY
THE MIGHTY HERCULES!



OLYMPIAN!



Great Heroes
of Mythology

PERSEUS AND THE DREAD GORGONS

WHILE CHASING A WILD BOAR ALONG THE SEACOAST OF HIS KINGDOM, KING POLYDECTES SEES A BEAUTIFUL WIDOW SPINNING...

YOU SHALL BE MY NEXT WIFE!

NO! MY KING! I
RESPECT MY HUSBAND'S MEMORY
TOO GREATLY TO
REMARRY!

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ALL RIGHT! IF YOU REFUSE
TO MARRY ME, THEN YOU
SHALL SERVE ME --- AS
A SLAVE!

BUT BEFORE THE KING CAN ORDER HIS MEN
TO SEIZE THE WIDOW, HER SON PERSEUS
COMES UP! AT THE SIGHT OF THE POWERFUL
YOUTH, THE KING RIDES OFF.

BUT I WILL HAVE HER,
AS MY WIFE --- OR SLAVE!

SOON AFTER, PERSEUS IS INVITED TO A
ROYAL PARTY...

PERSEUS, YOU
ALONE HAVE
BROUGHT ME NO
GIFT!

BECAUSE I HAVE NOTHING
TO BRING! BUT IF ANY-
THING CAN BE WON BY
STRATEGY OR BRAVING RISK
AND IT SHALL BE YOURS!

VERY WELL, PERSEUS---BRING
ME A GORGON'S HEAD,
MEDUSA'S HEAD!

HE-AHER
HEAD!



FUSING FROM THE SNAKE-HAIRED WOMEN,
PERSEUS RETURNS HOME...

MOTHER...

--- SHE IS NOT HERE!
ONCE YOU WERE DONE,
THE KING HAD HER TAKEN
TO HIS PALACE, WHERE
SHE GRINDS HIS CORN,
AS A LOWLY SLAVE!



QUICKLY PERSEUS STORMS INTO THE ROYAL
PALACE...

BEHOLD! I BRING YOU
MEDUSA'S HEAD!

HAAA HAAA! DO
YOU THINK YOU CAN
FOOL ME WITH A
SACK
ILLED WITH
SAVOR?

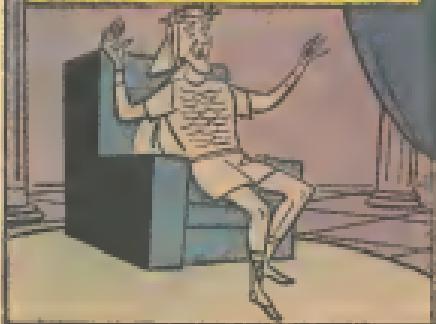


CLOSING HIS EYES PERSEUS
REACHES INTO THE SACK...

IS THIS
SACK OF
LOOSES?



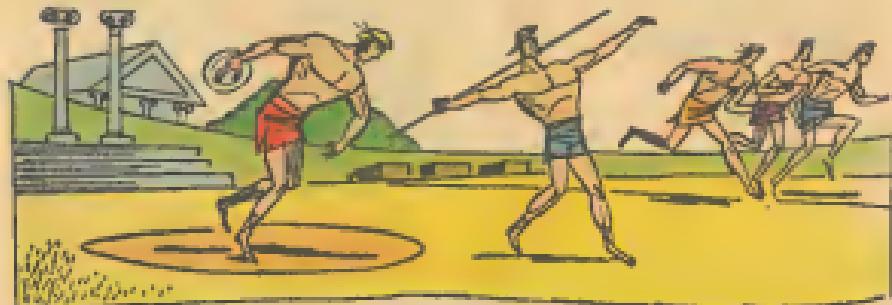
INSTANTLY, AT THE SIGHT OF THE DREADFUL
KING POLYDECTES FREEZES ON HIS THRONE,
AS HIS BODY CHANGES INTO STONE!



OUT OF THE PALACE STRIDED PERSEUS, HIS
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED— HIS MOTHER FREE!



The ATHLETE in ANCIENT GREECE



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From earliest historic times the Greeks were passionately devoted to athletic games. Youths of all ages avidly practiced such sports as boxing, wrestling, discus throwing and hurling the javelin. Popular, too, were the high jump and broad jump.

There were foot races for various distances. The nearest thing to the modern sprint was the short straightaway called the "stадион"—about 200 yards. Stone blocks were provided to give the runners a foothold for the take-off. Distance running was also popular. One of the most colorful of events was a race in full armor.

There were two types of wrestling contests. One was similar to a rough and tumble bout. The second type demanded considerably more skill. In this event each wrestler tried to throw his opponent so that his shoulder touched the ground.

Boxing was a highly-skilled sport engaged in by the most ambitious athletes. A championship won at the Olympics would bring national acclaim. The boxers' hands were bound by soft leather thongs for protection.

In later years the Greeks began to favor brute strength over skill. Boxers wrapped their fists with hard bullhide. These wrappings were often weighted with lead.

Athletes trained for long months each year. Training was rigorous. Food was restricted to cheese, dried figs and wheat bread. In later years meat was permitted. In addition to gymnastic exercises, athletes were taught how to lift weights and bend

iron rods. Instructions were given in how to tame bulls and strike a leather sack filled with sand.

Before engaging in a contest the athlete was rubbed down with olive oil. After the event the caked mixture of sweat, oil and dust was scraped off with a wooden stick, then the contestant took a shower.

The climax of every athlete's career was the Olympic games. These were held every four years. The fourth year was known as the Olympiad. During this time wars were suspended and a general truce declared. Athletes from all over Greece journeyed to Olympia to compete for national honors.

An Olympic victor was held in the highest esteem. His friends would donate money and set up a statue in his honor. The city of Athens rewarded her Olympic heroes handsomely with a gift of 500 drachmas. The Olympic winner was also entitled to eat at the public expense, and to sit in the choicest seats at the theater.

Many of the famous Greek heroes of legend and history were Olympic victors. Among these was the celebrated Milo who was six times a victor in wrestling at the Olympic games. Among his amazing feats of strength was his carrying a heifer on his shoulders through the stadium at Olympia, and afterward devouring it in a single day!

The Olympics are said to have been founded by the mighty Hercules himself. This hero's legendary feats of athletic skill, strength and daring have become an inspiration to athletes the world over.

The Mighty Hercules

THE DANGEROUS WINDS

EXCHANGING A CAROO OF HER SHEEP
FOR SPICES AND RARE ISLAND FOODS,
HELENA SAILS HOME FOR CALYDON,
WHEN SUDDENLY...

WHAT HAPPENED?
WHY HAVE WE
STOPPED?

THE WIND HAS FADED US.
HELENA! THERE'S NOT A BREATH
OF AIR! WE'RE BECALMED!

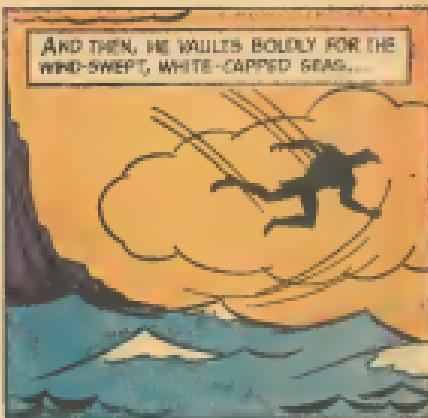
ON A NEARBY ISLAND, THE CUNNING SEA
WITCH, WILAMENE, PEAKS INTO THE CAVE OF
FOUR WINDS...

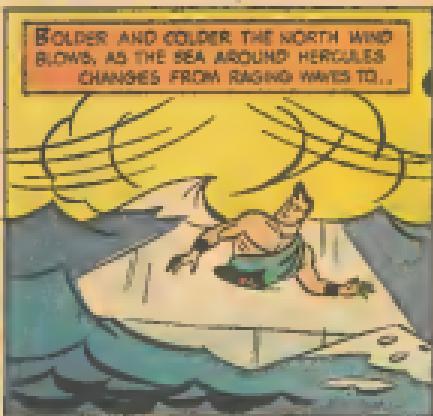
SO THAT'S WHY
THE WIND
STOPPED ALOUD.
KING OF THE
WINDS IS
ASLEEP!

AND WHILE HE'S SLEEPING,
A WAVE OF MY WAND WILL
PUT AEOLUS AND HIS FOUR
WINDS UNDER MY POWER!

NOW, HOW TO USE MY POWER OVER
AEOLUS? ---HMM! THAT MUST BE A SHIP
RETURNING TO CALYDON WITH SPICES AND
FINE FOODS---ALL FOR ME!







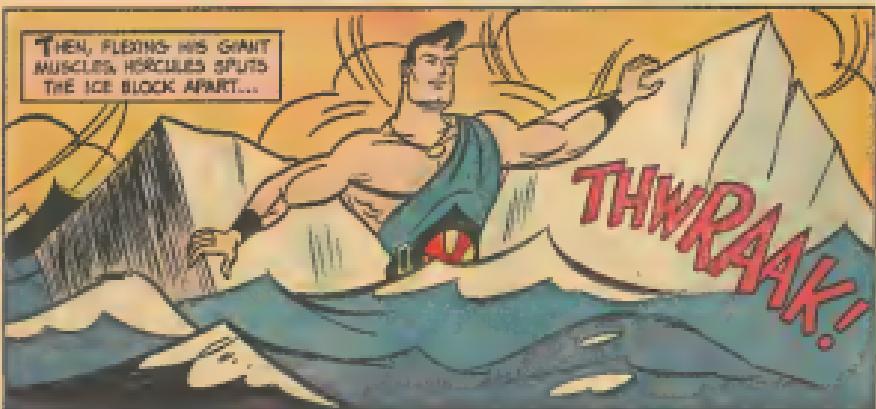
DESPERATE TO GET FREE, THE MIGHTY HERCULES BREATHES HARD, PUFFING AND PUFFING HIS WARM BREATH INTO THE FROZEN BLOCK...



AND SUDDENLY, A CRACK SUTHERS ACROSS THE ICY TRAP...



THEN, FLICKING HIS GIANT MUSCLES, HERCULES SPLITS THE ICE BLOCK APART...

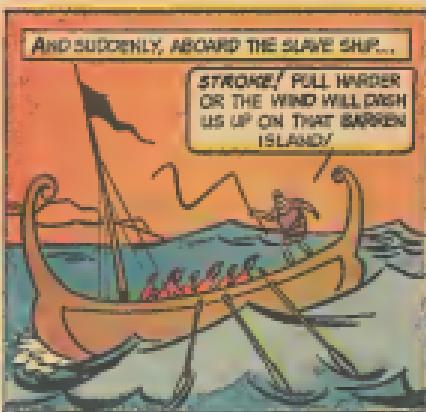


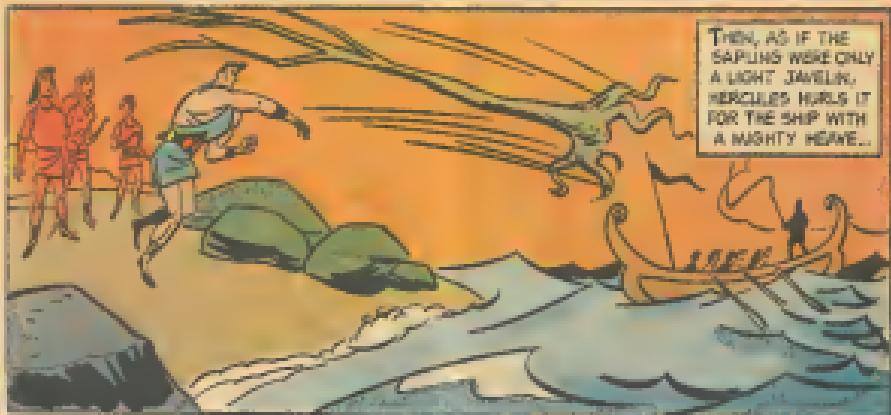
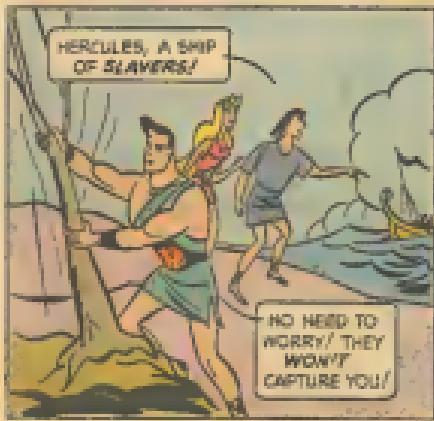
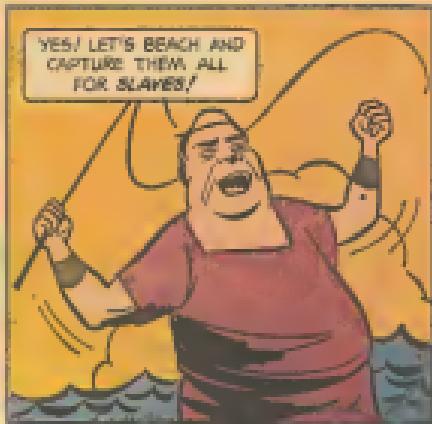
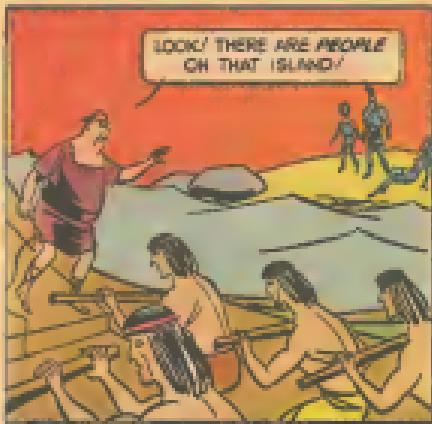
HELENA! STAY AFLOAT!
I AM ALMOST THERE!

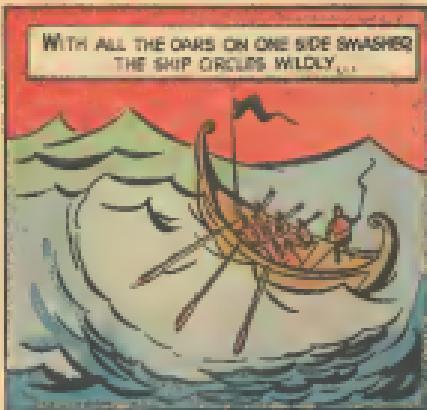
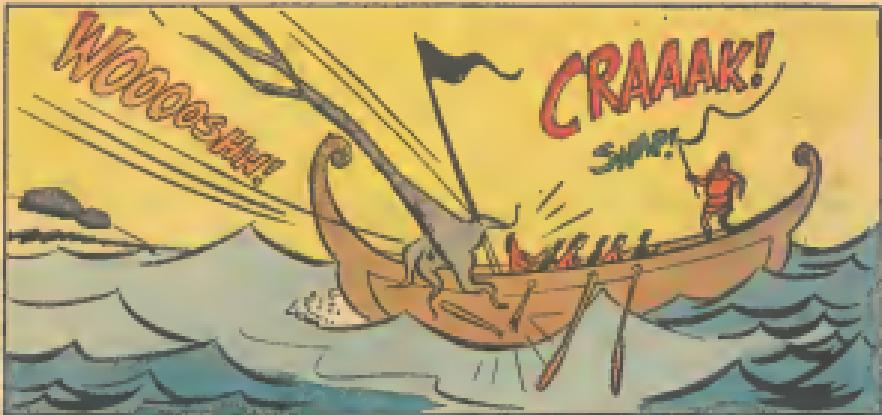


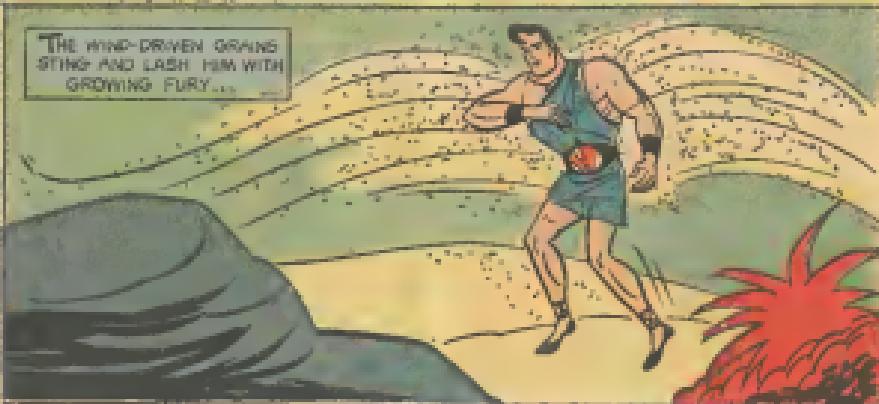
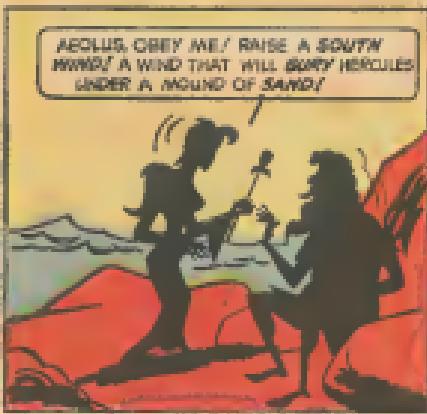
I HAVE YOU! NOW
TO GET YOU SAFELY
ASHORE!



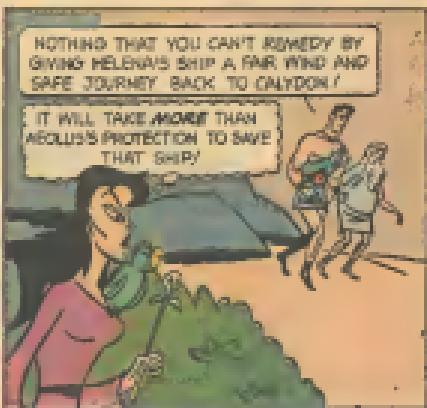
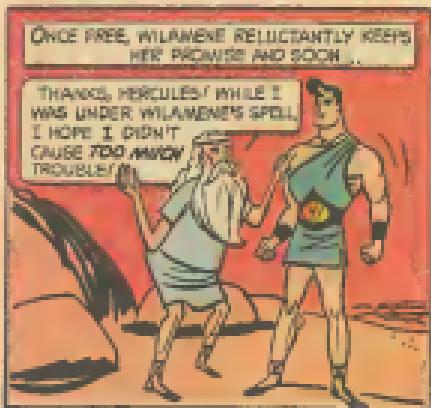












SOON...

ABOLIS CERTAINLY KEPT HIS
PROMISE! WITH THIS WIND,
WE'LL SOON SIGHT CALYDON!



IF I CAN'T ENJOY THAT SHIP'S DELICIOUS
CARGO, AND ONE HILL! LET MY MAGIC FIRE
RING REFLECT THE SUN'S RAYS AND SET
HERCULES'S SHIP ABLAZE!



SUDDENLY, MILAMENE'S RING-REFLECTED
SUNBEAM SETS THE WOODEN SAILING
SHIP AFIRE...

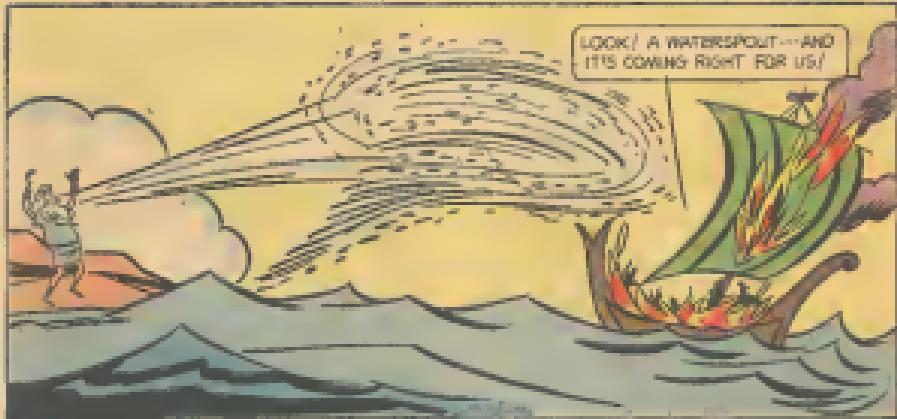


THE WHOLE SHIPS
AFIRE!



I PROMISED HERCULES
SAFE PASSAGE! MAYBE
A WATERSPOUT CAN
DOUSE THAT FLAME!







ARCHAEOLOGY

NUMBER 12

ARTHUR EVANS AND CRETE

This is one of a series of Information Pictures in Gold Key Comics. Collect the whole series for useful knowledge.

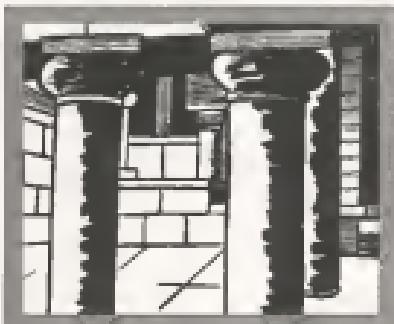


In 1900 Arthur Evans, a wealthy Englishman began excavation of Crete. It was a task that would occupy him for 40 years.



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He began his work at Knossos and within a few weeks he had unearthed a huge building of great age, the Palace of King Minos.



The corridors of this great building were laid out in such confusing fashion that it reminded him of the mythical labyrinth.



The beautiful sculpture and art work that he found proved to be far older than other known cultures, and had influenced them.



The Minoans, as they are called, had three different kinds of writing, one of which was of a hieroglyphic or picture form.

THE MIGHTY HERCULES

PUNCH-UP NO. 2

